

CORRESPONDENCE.

789 LAFAYETTE AVE.,
BROOKLYN, N.Y., Dec. 10, 1888.

Judge Clement and Judge Bartlett of this city, have both refused within the past few days to marry a young man and woman who were anxious to have a judicial knot tied. Careful questioning disclosed the fact that the parents of the bride and bridegroom elect knew nothing of the young folks' intention. If ministers would only be as careful, there might be considerably less trouble and misery in the world, and fewer divorces. "If I do not, another will," Mr. Beecher used to say. I recall some advice given by this great man to a young couple who presented themselves at his house to be made one. They had been frank enough to confess that their parents on both sides were opposed to the marriage solely on account of the inability of the young man to properly support his wife. "Oh, if that is all," said Mr. Beecher, "we will proceed with the ceremony. I married my wife on two hundred a year, and we lived according to our means. You must do the same." This proved to have been very poor advice and a very unwise act. Instead of an increase of salary, the young husband lost his position and was obliged to be dependent upon his own and his wife's relations for several months. Two children were born, and then came sickness and poverty and almost despair. Love happily endured and now things are better, but the health of the wife was sacrificed to the intense nervous and physical strain. She will never be strong again. This could have been entirely averted by waiting a year or two. I have no doubt that ministers could persuade many a couple to stop and think, if they would only take the time and trouble. The sentimental side of the case is too much considered by those permitted binders of flesh and blood. Now is the time for our so-called "Men of God" to emulate the example set by our wise and humane civil officers.

Lord Salisbury, the English Premier, has boldly declared himself in favor of Woman's Suffrage. His speech at Edinburgh a few days ago seems to have taken the world by surprise.

"We earnestly hope," he said, "that the day is not far distant when women will also bear their share of voting and determining the policy of the country. We can conceive of no argument why they should be excluded, since it is obvious that they are as abundantly fit as a great many others to possess the right of suffrage, by reason of knowledge, training, character, influence and weight thrown in the direction of morality and religion."

The following letter is so kindly meant that I give the most of it for the benefit of my readers. It is from a lady in Texas. "Your endeavor to help the poor and suffering of our sex has inspired me with a desire to pitch in and help too. I haven't over much knowledge, but experience and hard knocks have taught me something. I know, for instance, that the reason so many people suffer from dyspepsia is because they eat too much. I also know that there is nothing so good for the disease as a diet of sea moss blanc mange, for I have tried it. For five weeks I absolutely ate nothing else. Now I eat it for my supper with cream and sugar and take for my breakfast and dinner anything I want in moderation. I also know that persons suffering from diseased lungs can be helped if they are careful of themselves. I know that such invalids ought to be as much out of doors as possible, rain or shine. I know that sea moss, or Iceland moss, as it is called by many, is just as beneficial to the lungs as to the stomach, but the waste in pulmonary diseases is so great and so constant that something more than this is needed. A combination of cod liver oil, Iceland moss and rye brandy has done a world of good for my family. It will give comparative comfort to the helplessly consumptive, and is the only emulsion that mixes with water. It is called 'Brandrioli,' and can be found everywhere. In reference to the blanc mange, I would like to say that I find a slow simmering better than a hard boiling. I have tried both ways and the former method gives more richness and solidity, and blanc mange so made will keep longer."

Mary Anderson says that she never advised but one girl to go upon the stage, although being a woman of heart and conscience she has carefully examined the claims of scores of histrionic aspirants. The young woman she did encourage was not endowed with remarkable beauty. In fact she had a very plain face. Her figure was good, and she possessed that rare grace which comes of the utter absence of all self-consciousness. She had a fine voice, an excellent memory, and a real talent for acting. But these would not have influenced Miss Anderson in her advice had the young woman not possessed that best of all endowments—common sense. In other words, she was not susceptible to flattery and could take care of her body and soul. In this connection, I will say right here that I wish girls would not write to me about adopting the stage as a profession. How can I safely give advice when I have no practical knowledge of the person? To frown upon a real talent is something it would break my heart to do, and to give a ray of hope to the person who should be wisely discouraged, would be a fatal performance. So please do not apply to me.

If you wish to select something nice for Christmas, send for the illustrated catalogue of John Rogers' Groups of Statuary, and the photographic print of a new one called "Politics." This is a spirited and original conception, and funny and instructive withal. It will not cost you anything to send for these illustrations, and you can select what you want as well as if you had visited the Broadway studio. These groups vary in price from \$5 to \$20, and are

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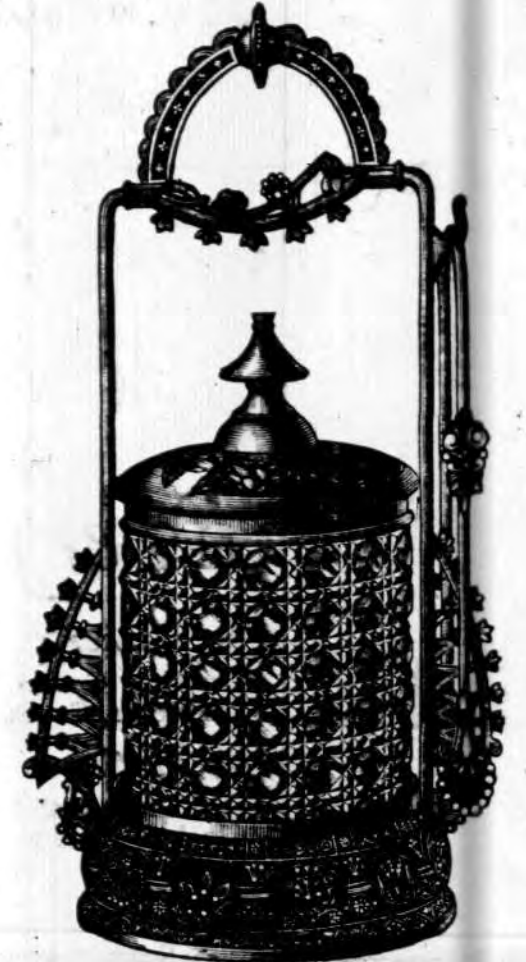


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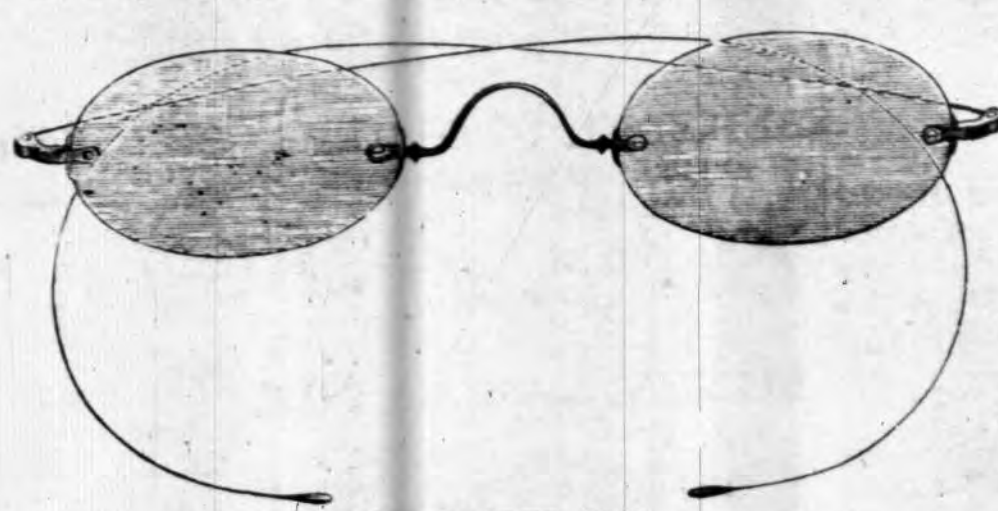
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